



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT A FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD REHABILITATION PERMIT

A Federal Migratory Bird Rehabilitation permit will authorize you to take, transport and temporarily possess sick, injured, and orphaned migratory birds for rehabilitation purposes. You should review 50 CFR parts 10, 13 & 21.31 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations can be found on our website at:

<http://www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.shtml>. **You are responsible for reviewing and understanding these regulations before you request and accept a permit.** Below is a review of several sections pertinent to a Federal Migratory Bird Rehabilitation permit.

1. What experience must I have to qualify for a rehabilitation permit?

You must be at least 18 years of age with a minimum of 100 hours of hands-on experience, gained over the course of at least 1 whole year, rehabilitating the types of migratory birds you intend to rehabilitate (e.g., waterbirds, songbirds, raptors) or comparable experience. Up to 20 hours of the 100-hour time requirement may be fulfilled by participation in migratory bird rehabilitation seminars and courses.

2. What are the caging requirements?

Facilities must be adequate for each species you plan to rehabilitate. You will be required to submit photographs and diagrams of your enclosures with your application. Criteria used for evaluating and inspecting your facilities will be based on the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association and International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council's Minimum Standards for Rehabilitation. You may obtain a copy of this publication by calling NWRA at 320-230-9920 or IWRC at 408-271-2685. You can also visit their web sites at: www.nwrawildlife.org or www.iwrc-online.org.

3. Do I need to report suspected criminal activity involving a migratory bird that I receive for rehabilitation?

Yes. You must notify your local Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office if you receive a live or dead migratory bird whose injuries appear to be caused by poisoning, gunshot, electrocution or other criminal activity. Contact information for your local Service Law Enforcement Office can be obtained on the internet at <http://offices.fws.gov> or by calling your Migratory Bird Permit Office.

4. How long can I keep a bird in captivity for rehabilitation?

You must release all releasable recuperated birds to the wild as soon as seasonal conditions allow. Birds may not be held for more than 180 days unless approved by the Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office.

5. When must I euthanize a bird?

You must euthanize any bird that has sustained injuries requiring amputation of a leg, a foot, or a wing at the elbow (humero-ulnar joint) or above, and/or is completely blind. You must not sustain the life of any migratory bird that cannot after medical management feed itself, perch upright, or ambulate without inflicting additional injuries to itself. You must obtain permission before euthanizing any bald or golden eagle or threatened or endangered species unless Service personnel are not available and humane considerations warrant prompt euthanasia.

6. Can I display birds that are being rehabilitated to the public?

The Migratory Bird Rehabilitation permit does not authorize the use of injured/recovering birds for educational purposes. Birds must not be displayed to the public unless you use video equipment or barriers that prevent birds from both hearing and seeing the public. If at any time a device that allows the public to view birds causes stress or harm, or impedes the rehabilitation of any bird, it must be discontinued immediately.

7. Can I keep a migratory bird to use for educational purposes?

This permit does not authorize you to possess birds for educational purposes. You must release all recuperated birds to suitable habitat following the recovery of the bird as soon as seasonable conditions allow. However, any bird that, after rehabilitation, cannot be released to the wild may be transferred to a Migratory Bird Special Purpose Possession permit if suitable to use for educational purposes or another type of permit as deemed appropriate, upon authorization from the issuing permit office.

8. *Can I keep imprinted birds for educational purposes?*

Orphaned migratory birds should be raised in a manner in which they are imprinted upon their own species. Every precaution must be taken to avoid imprinting birds to humans. Except as required to feed, water, and exercise animals, indoor and outdoor facilities, cages, pens, enclosures or other areas must be sufficiently separate and protected from pets and from human living or work space to prevent human contact with animals. You will be required to transfer any birds that are imprinted to humans while in your care as directed by your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office. Under no circumstances will anyone be permitted to keep a bird that has been imprinted while under their care.

9. *Can I transfer birds to educational or scientific institutions for educational purposes?*

Yes. Live and dead birds which are suitable for use in educational programs or research projects can be placed with a qualified educational or scientific institution as defined in 50 CFR 10.12. No live birds may be transferred without permission from your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office. Dead bald and golden eagles, including feathers, must be sent to the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository at: Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Building 128, Commerce City, Colorado 80022.

10. *Will anyone inspect my records or birds in my care?*

By accepting a Federal Rehabilitation permit, you authorize an agent of the Service to enter your premises at any reasonable hour to inspect the wildlife you hold and your records. (See 50 CFR 13.47)

11. *What procedures are required to transfer my permit to a new location?*

Any address change or other circumstances that affect your permit must be reported to your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office in writing within 10 days so your permit can be amended. (See 50 CFR 13.23) In addition, you must provide pictures and diagrams (including a description of materials used) of your cages if your physical address has changed.

12. *Do I need a State permit to rehabilitate migratory birds?*

Your permit is not valid unless you are also in compliance with State requirements. This means that if your State requires you to have a permit to possess migratory birds for rehabilitation purposes, you must hold a valid State permit in order for your Federal permit to be valid. You are required to submit a copy of the State permit as part of your permit application package. It is your responsibility to make sure you comply with State permit requirements.

13. *Will I be required to keep records of my activities?*

Yes. You must maintain accurate records of operations on a calendar-year basis. Your records should reflect each bird that you possessed and its disposition, including whether the birds were released, euthanized, died, are still undergoing rehabilitation in your care, or were transferred (including the name of the persons or institution to whom birds were transferred).

14. *Will I be required to submit an annual report of activities?*

Yes. You will receive an annual report form from your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office. Reports can also be found on our website at: www.permits.fws.gov/mbpermits/birdbasics.html. This report must be completed and submitted to your issuing office by January 31 of each year.

15. *How do I renew my permit?*

A renewal letter or form and annual report form will be sent to you at least 60 days prior to the expiration of your permit. If you wish to renew your permit, you must return the completed renewal to your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office at least 30 days prior to the expiration of your permit and include a copy of your current State license, if one is required. If we receive your renewal request at least 30 days prior to the expiration of your permit, your permit will remain valid beyond the expiration date for the activity authorized on your permit until a decision on your renewal is made. If you allow your permit to expire before requesting renewal, you may be required to submit a new application. (See 50 CFR 13.22 and 13.11(c))



Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Expires 7/2007
OMB No. 1018-0022

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Return to: Migratory Bird Permit Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Type of Activity:
Rehabilitation

Complete section A or B, and sections C and D of this application. See attached Permit Application Instructions.

A. Complete if applying as an individual						
1.a. Last name:		1.b. First name:		1.c. Middle name or initial:	1.d. Suffix	
1.e. Doing business as (dba):		2.a. Mailing Address (line 1):		2.b. Mailing Address (line 2):		
2.c. Mailing Address (line 3):		3.a. City:		3.b. County:	3.c. Province:	3.d. State:
3.e. Zip code/postal code :		3.f. Country:		4. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy):		5. Social Security No:
6. Occupation:		7. List of any business, agency, organizational, or institutional affiliation associated with the wildlife or plants to be covered by this permit:				
8. Home telephone number:		9. Work telephone number:		10. Fax number:		11. E-mail address:

B. Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency or institution						
1.a. Name of business, agency, or institution:		1.b. Doing business as (dba):		2. Tax identification no.:		
3.a. Mailing address (line 1):		3.b. Mailing address (line 2):		3.c. Mailing address (line 3):		
4.a. City:		4.b. County		4.c. State:	4.d. Zip code:	
5.a. Principal officer - Last name:		5.b. First name:		5.c. Middle name or initial		5.d. Suffix
5.e. Principal officer title:		6. Describe the type of business, agency, or institution and provide state of incorporation:				
7. Home telephone number:		8. Work telephone number:		9. Fax number:		10. E-mail address:

C All applicants complete	
1. Do you currently have or have you had any Federal Fish and Wildlife permits? (For simplification, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates will be referred to as a permit.) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, list the number(s) of the most current permit you have held: _____ No <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Have you obtained all required State, Federal or foreign government approval(s) to conduct the activity you propose? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, provide a copy of the approval(s). Have applied <input type="checkbox"/> Not required <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Enclose a check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE in the amount of \$50.00. Federal, tribal, state and local government agencies, and individuals and institutions acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the application fee (50 CFR 13.11(d)).	
4. Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in Title 50, Part 13, of the Code of Federal Regulations and the other applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.	
5. Signature (in blue ink) of applicant/person responsible for permit in Section A or B. (Photocopies/stamped signatures are not accepted.)	
6. Date (mm/dd/yyyy):	

D. REHABILITATION (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.31)

Note: A Rehabilitation permit is required to possess and transport sick and injured migratory birds, restore them to health, and release them back to the wild. Birds undergoing rehabilitation may not be displayed to the public. Permits are available to individuals and organizations with appropriate facilities and demonstrated expertise in rehabilitating migratory birds. You must be at least 18 years old to apply. A rehabilitation permit may be valid up to 5 years.

Please make sure you attach a copy of any applicable State permits, as requested in C.2. on page 1 of this application.

Please provide the following information on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Describe in detail your experience and training, including the source and the duration, in maintaining and rehabilitating migratory birds. Include a list of species you have worked with, types of injuries, and treatment provided.
2. Describe your rehabilitation facilities. Attach photographs and diagrams of your indoor and outdoor enclosures. Diagrams must include dimensions and a description of interior and exterior construction materials, such as flooring and netting materials. Indicate the species or type of species to be housed in each. If your facilities are not physically located at the mailing address provided on page 1 of this application, provide the physical location (street address or legal description).
3. Describe how birds will be conditioned for release. If you will use creance flying, describe in detail your expertise. If you propose to use a flight cage and do not own one, provide a letter from a licensed rehabilitator stating his or her willingness to allow you the use of their cage(s).
4. Describe the diet you will administer for each species you propose to rehabilitate, and indicate your food source.
5. Provide a letter of recommendation from a federally permitted rehabilitator familiar with your training and experience. Also provide a letter from a federally permitted rehabilitator stating his or her willingness to provide you with assistance. If these are the same individual, a single letter will suffice.
6. Provide a letter from a licensed veterinarian acknowledging their agreement to work with you by providing any necessary veterinary assistance.
7. Provide the name and telephone number of your State Wildlife Law Enforcement contact.
8. You must retain records relating to the activities conducted under your permit for at least 5 years from the date of expiration of your permit. Provide the address where these records will be kept.
9. Subpermittees: Please provide the name of anyone who will be responsible for the permitted activities in your absence (offsite). Anyone authorized to conduct permitted activities in your absence must be at least 18 years old. If a subpermittee will be authorized to rehabilitate migratory birds at a site other than your facility, provide the following information: name; address; age; description of their expertise; type of species they will care for; type of care they will provide; diagrams and, except for persons raising baby passerines, photographs of their facilities. If permitted activities will take place at a location other than your facility, the facilities at that location must be pre-approved. Any individual(s) regularly transporting birds directly to your facility or from your facility directly to another facility must either be listed under your permit as a subpermittee or possess their own rehabilitation permit. As the primary permittee, you are legally responsible for ensuring that your subpermittees, staff, and volunteers adhere to the terms of your permit when conducting migratory bird rehabilitation activities. Some states may require Federal subpermittees to have their own state permit.

PERMIT APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions pertain to the standard Permit Form 3-200 that must be completed as an application for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit. The General Permit Procedures in 50 CFR 13 address the permitting process. For simplification, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates will be referred to as a permit.

- Complete section A or B, and sections C and D of the application. Print clearly or type in the information. An incomplete or unclear application may cause delays in processing or may be returned to the applicant.
- Provide any required additional information or attachments outlined in section D of the application form. Be as complete and descriptive as possible. If there is any doubt as to the information's relevance, include it with the application.
- Sign the application **in blue ink** and send the original to the address at the top of the application. Faxes or copies of the original signature will not be accepted.
- Please plan ahead. Allow at least 60 days for your application to be processed ([50 CFR 13.11](#)). Some applications may take longer than 90 days to process. Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- Additional forms and instructions, as well as regulations, are available on the Internet at <http://permits.fws.gov/>.

Most of the application form is self-explanatory, but the following provides some assistance for completing the form.

COMPLETE EITHER SECTION A OR SECTION B:

- Section A. **"Complete if applying as an individual"** - Enter the complete name of the responsible individual who will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Enter personal information that identifies the applicant. All blocks must be completed. If you are applying as an individual but conducting permitted activities as a business, provide the name of the business. If you are applying on behalf of a client, the personal information must pertain to the client. A document evidencing power of attorney must be included with the application.
- Section B. **"Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency, or institution"** - Enter the complete name and address of the business, agency, institution, or other organization that will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Give a brief description of the type of business or activity the applicant is engaged in, the name and phone number of the person in charge (i.e., principal officer), and if the company is incorporated, the state in which it is incorporated.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION C:

- Block C.1 **"Do you currently have or have you had any federal fish and wildlife permits?"** List the number(s) of your most current FWS or CITES permit or the number of the most recent permit if none are currently valid. (Do not list permits of others under which you acted as a subpermittee or agent.)
- Block C.2 **"Have you obtained all required state, federal or foreign government approval to conduct the activity you propose?"** (Please be aware that there may be other requirements necessary to conduct this activity, such as local zoning requirements.) If "yes," list the state, federal or foreign countries involved and type of document required. Include a copy of these documents with the application. If "no," indicate what steps you have taken to secure approval (use attachment if necessary). If you have applied for the documents, check the "have applied" box and list the state, federal or foreign countries involved and type of documents required. If the proposed activity is not regulated check "not required."
- Block C.3 **"Application fee:"** You must enclose a permit processing fee unless you are fee exempt. Consult the Application Processing Fee section on the next page. Make your check or money order payable to the "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service" and attach it to the application form. If you are fee exempt, write "EXEMPT" in the fee block and attach proof of exempt status with your application.
- Block C.4 **"CERTIFICATION"** The individual identified in Section A, the principal officer named in Section B, or person with a valid power of attorney (documentation must be included in the application) must sign and date the application **in blue ink**. This signature binds the applicant to the statement of certification. This means that you certify that you have read and understand the regulations that apply to the permit. You also certify that everything included in the application is true to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to read the statement and re-read the application before signing.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION D:

Provide any required additional information outlined in Section D of the application form. Be as complete and descriptive as possible. If there is any doubt as to the information's relevance, include it with the application.

APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL FISH AND WILDLIFE PERMIT

Paperwork Reduction Act and the Privacy Act – Notices

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), please be advised that:

1. The gathering of information on fish and wildlife is authorized by:
 - (a) Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), Title 50, Part 22, of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR);
 - (b) Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), Title 50, CFR Part 17;
 - (c) Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), Title 50, CFR Part 21;
 - (d) Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), Title 50 CFR Part 18
 - (e) Wild Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916), Title 50, CFR Part 15;
 - (f) Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. 42); Injurious Wildlife, Title 50 CFR Part 16;
 - (g) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) (TIAS 8249); Title 50, CFR Part 23.
 - (h) General Provisions, Title 50 CFR Part 10;
 - (i) General Permit Procedures, Title 50 CFR Part 13; and
 - (j) Wildlife (Import/export/transport), Title 50 CFR Part 14.
2. Information requested in this form is purely voluntary. However, submission of requested information is required in order to process applications for permits authorized under the above laws. Failure to provide all requested information may be sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny the request. Response is not required unless a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number is displayed on the form.
3. Certain applications for permits authorized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1371-1383) will be published in the Federal Register as required by the two laws.
4. Disclosures outside the Department of the Interior may be made without the consent of an individual if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. (Ref. 68 FR 52611, September 4, 2003)
 - (a) To subject matter experts, state, federal, local, and foreign agencies for the purpose of obtaining advice relevant to making a decision on an application for a permit or when necessary to accomplish a FWS function related to this system of records.
 - (b) To the public as a result of publishing Federal Register notices announcing the receipt of permit applications for public comment or notice of the decision on a permit application.
 - (c) To federal, state, local, or foreign wildlife and plant agencies for the exchange of information on permits granted or denied to assure compliance with all applicable permitting requirements.
 - (d) Captive-bred Wildlife registrants under the Endangered Species Act for the exchange of authorized species, and to share information on the captive breeding of these species.
 - (e) To federal, state, and local authorities who need to know who is permitted to receive and rehabilitate sick, orphaned, and injured birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; federally permitted rehabilitators; individuals seeking a permitted rehabilitator with whom to place a bird in need of care; and licensed veterinarians who receive, treat, or diagnose sick, orphaned, and injured birds.
 - (f) To the Department of Justice, or a court, adjudicative, or other administrative body or to a party in litigation before a court or adjudicative or administrative body, under certain circumstances.
 - (g) To the appropriate federal, state, tribal, local, or foreign governmental agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing statutes, rules, or licenses, when we become aware of a violation or potential violation of such statutes, rules, or licenses, or when we need to monitor activities associated with a permit or regulated use.
 - (h) To a congressional office in response to an inquiry to the office by the individual to whom the record pertains.
 - (i) To the General Accounting Office or Congress when the information is required for the evaluation of the permit programs.
 - (j) To provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a federal claim against the debtor or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the FWS.
5. For individuals, personal information such as home address and telephone number, financial data, and personal identifiers (social security number, birth date, etc.) will be removed prior to any release of the application.
6. The public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection varies depending on the activity for which a permit is requested. The relevant burden for a migratory bird rehabilitation application is 7 hours, and 3 hour for reporting. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Freedom of Information Act – Notice

For organizations, businesses, or individuals operating as a business (i.e., permittees not covered by the Privacy Act), we request that you identify any information that should be considered privileged and confidential business information to allow the Service to meet its responsibilities under FOIA. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" at the top of the letter or page and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary of the confidential information. The non-confidential summary and remaining documents may be made available to the public under FOIA [43 CFR 2.13(c)(4), 43 CFR 2.15(d)(1)(i)].

Application Processing Fee

The fee to process a migratory bird rehabilitation permit application is \$50.00. This fee applies to new permit applications and permit renewals. There is no fee for amendment of this permit. Checks should be made payable to "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service." The fee does not guarantee the issuance of a permit. It will not be refunded regardless of whether a permit is issued, abandoned, or denied. We will not refund any application fee under any circumstances if we have processed the application. However, we may return the application fee if you withdraw the application before we have significantly processed it. (50 CFR 13.11(d))

The application fee does not apply to any federal, tribal, state, or local government agency or to any individual or institution acting on behalf of such agency for the proposed activities.

Request for Permission to Release Contact Information About Federally Permitted Migratory Bird Rehabilitators

The Fish and Wildlife Service often is asked for the names, addresses, phone numbers, and species specialty of federally permitted rehabilitators. This information may be requested by State or local officials or by the general public. We are obligated to provide this information for permittees that operate as businesses and organizations. However, the records for individuals holding migratory bird permits are contained in a Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) system of records. Therefore, only the name, species, permit number, and State of residence of private individuals are automatically included on any list of permittees made available to the public.

To better serve the public and help ensure prompt treatment of sick and injured migratory birds, we intend to compile a list of names and contact information for federally permitted migratory bird rehabilitators. This list will be posted on our website and made available to the operators of our 1-800-344-WILD information line. The complete address and phone number of private individuals will be included only upon authorization from those permittees.

If you are not operating as a business or organizational entity and you are applying for, or currently hold, a Federal Migratory Bird Rehabilitation Permit as an individual, please indicate which of the following you prefer:

☐ YES, the Service may include my complete address and telephone number in its public list of permitted migratory bird rehabilitators. I understand it will be made available to the general public.

Name: _____

Contact phone no.: _____

Address: _____

Bird groups that you specialize in (e.g., raptors, waterfowl, songbirds; eggs, orphaned, sick or injured, etc.). This information may be included on a general list available to the public.

☐ NO, the Service may not include my address and telephone number in its public list of permitted migratory bird rehabilitators.

For those who elect to withhold address and phone numbers from the public list, the Service will only release such information as provided in the Privacy Act, or under the Freedom of Information Act upon a determination that the release would be in the public interest, such as may be necessary to control zoonotic disease.

**Please complete this form and return it along with
your application, renewal request, or annual report.
Thank You!**



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Regional Permit Offices

REGION 1: California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

911 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-4181

REGION 2

Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas

P.O. Box 709
Albuquerque, NM 87103

REGION 3

Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin

One Federal Drive
Fort Snelling, MN 55111

REGION 4

Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico

P.O. Box 49208
Atlanta, GA 30359

REGION 5

Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia

P.O. Box 779
Hadley, MA 01035-0779

REGION 6

Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

P.O. Box 25486
DFC(60130)
Denver, CO 80225-0486

REGION 7

Alaska

1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503